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The M1 carbine guide

You will find here a thorough study of the M1 carbine (United States Carbine, Caliber .30, M1) over the period 1941-45. We will first discuss the basic concepts, then we will see in more detail the characteristic elements of the M1 carbines of the second war.

History of the US M1 Carbine

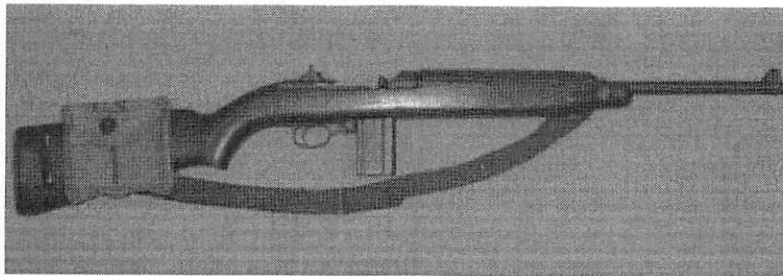
Since 1938, the **US Army** has been eager to equip non-combatant troops with a semi-automatic rifle, less bulky, lighter and more maneuverable than the **Garand**.

It was not until 1940 that the Ordnance Corp. accepted the request. The green light was given in 1941 to the various arms manufacturers to launch the competition. More than 20 prototypes were then submitted to the US Army. After a year and a half, the choice will be made for the Winchester model and will take the designation of M1 Carbine (<https://www.militaria-deal.com/militaria-army/us-militaria>).

Between 1941 and 1945, more than 6 million USM1 rifles were produced by 12 different contractors. Inland, Winchester, Underwood, National Postal Meter, Quality Hardware, IBM, Saginaw (Michigan, Grand Rapids), Standard Products, Rock-Ola, Irwin-Pedersen, Commercial Controls. This mass production makes the M1 rifle the most produced American weapon during WW2 (<https://www.militaria-deal.com/top-ww2-militaria>).

The commissioning will be done from June 1942. The rifle was an immediate success thanks to its lightness and maneuverability (it could be held with one hand) and this despite its lack of power.

It equipped from then on the units of support and support (transmission, artillery, transport, ...). A version with folding stock was developed for the airborne troops under the denomination 'M1 A1 Carbine' (<https://www.militaria-deal.com/militaria-army/us-militaria>).



An example of a WW2 M1 carbine

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Features of the WW2 M1 Carbine

Operation: Semi-automatic by gas borrowing

Length: 905 mm

Unloaded weight: 2.48 kg

Cannon: 457.2 mm 4 stripes on the right side

Weight with ammunition: 2.5 kg

Magazine capacity: 15 shots



Speed : 607 m/s

Rate of Fire: M2 on full auto, 650-700rpm

Effective range: 275 m

Production and case markings of M1 and M1 A1 carbines by manufacturers (1941-45) :

Manufacturer	Case Marking	M1	M1 A1
Inland Division, General Motors	INLAND DIV.	2 485 000	140 000
Winchester Repeating Arms	WINCHESTER	828 059	
Underwood-Elliott-Fisher	UNDERWOOD	545 616	
National Postal Meter	NATIONAL POSTAL METER	413 017	
Quality Hardware Manufacturing Corp.	QUALITY H.M.C.	359 666	
International Business Machines	I.B.M. CORP.	346 500	
Saginaw Steering Gear Division. Michigan, General Motors	SAGINAW S.G.	293 592	
Standard Products	STD. PRO.	247 160	
Rock-Ola Music Corporation	ROCK-OLA	228 500	
Saginaw Steering Gear Division. Grand Rapids, General Motors	SAGINAW S'G'	76 897	
Irwin-Pedersen	IRWIN-PEDERSEN	146 723	
Commercial Controls Corporation	COMMERCIAL CONTROLS	239	
Total Production : 6 110 969			